

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.

An Appendix including amended drawing figures is attached following page 9 of this paper.

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

In FIG. 1 is illustrated an exemplary system for implementing the teachings of the present invention. The network architecture of the facility management system 5 of the present invention is preferably comprised of three levels, a management level network (MLN) 10, which is an Ethernet network based on Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, commonly known as TCP/IP protocol, a building level network (BLN) 20, and a floor level network (FLN) 30. Low level or floor level networks (e.g. FLN 30) are typically small deterministic networks with limited flexibility or bandwidth, but which provide for control data communication between locally controlled devices. Building level networks (e.g. BLN 20) are medium level networks that are the backbone of the building control system 5. A building level network typically connects to several floor level networks and possibly large equipment, and further is connected to the control stations that allow for monitoring of all system data. As a result, the building level network 20 in the embodiment described herein is a token ring network. The management level network 10 is a high level network used for interfacing with internal and external workstations, data repositories, and printing devices. The management level network 10 in the exemplary embodiment described herein is an open protocol network (e.g. Ethernet) that enables remote access to data within the system 5.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Floor level devices connected to the FLN 30 may include terminal equipment controllers 32, one or more sensors 34, differential pressure monitors 36, fume hood control monitors 38, lab room controllers, digital energy monitors 40, variable frequency drives 42 and other devices. The FLN 30 may suitably employ the standardized LonTalk protocol. Controller 22 or controller 24 serve to coordinate the communication of data and control signals between the elements on the FLN 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and the servers 12 and 14. In order to operatively connect any of the devices connected to the FLN 20 (e.g. sensors 34₁ – 34_n) electrical conductors 44₁ – 44_n are required. The present invention provides for securing conductors 44₁ – 44_n to device housings of devices located on the FLN 20, such as sensors 34₁-34_n which are each provided in a device housing 100 further described in FIG. 2.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

Still referring to FIG. 2, the base 110 is provided with grip bars 145 adjacent to aperture 135 and grip bars 150 adjacent to aperture 140 for providing plenum cable stress relief. Base 110 is further provided with screw towers 152, 154 which are provided on opposite sides of grip bars 150 and with screw towers 156 and 158 which are provided on opposite sides of grip bars 145. Screw towers 152, 154, 156 and 158 are used to secure clamp-straps, which according to the present invention, are used to provide improved stability to the wiring connection between conductors 44₁ – 44_n and sensors 34₁ – 34_n.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 3 illustrates base 110 after terminal blocks 205, 210, sensor ~~245~~ 34 and plenum cable ~~220~~ 44 have been connected to the base 100. Sidewall 230 is similar to sidewall 130 of FIG. 2, except that sidewall 230 is provided with an aperture 235 for receiving sensor 34 and aperture 140 for receiving electrical conductor 44, which in FIG. 3 is illustrated as flexible metal conduit. Sensors 34 may interface physically either thru the opening 120 in the center of the base 110 or at the smaller side opening 235 provided in sidewall 230. Accordingly, base 110 is provided with two types of sensor interfaces 120,

235 which allow the user to install different types of devices (e.g. sensors) into the housing, or more than one type of device into the housing. Therefore, the present invention provides a housing 100 that can have plural sensor configurations. For example, depending upon the types of sensors 34 installed in housing 100, the device housing can provide for temperature, relative humidity or CO2 sensing, or some combination of these sensing capabilities.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

Referring still to FIG. 3, terminal blocks 205 and 210 snap into base 110 and receive wiring from one or more sensors 34, one or more conductors 44, and pin connections from a printed circuit board (not shown) provided in the cover of the housing 100, discussed with respect to FIG. 7. In order to secure an electrical conductor 44 to base 110, clamp-strap 250 is secured to the base 110. Clamp-strap 250 is provided with two ends 252 and 254 which are secured to screw towers 156 and 158 respectively using screws 255 to secure the electrical conductor 44. The clamp strap 250 has two sides 256 and 258. Side 258 is provided with lanced tabs 260, 262 which key to the spiral seam of the conductor 44 and secure the conductor 44 in place when conductor 44 is provided as conduit. Accordingly, as shown in FIGS. 5 and 6, and as discussed below with respect to FIG. 9, clamp strap 250 is reversible such that either side 256 or 258 may be used to secure a conductor 44 to housing 100 depending upon the type of conductor used.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 6, when conductor 44 is a plenum cable, the clamp strap ends 252 are secured to screw towers 152 and 154 such that side 256 is the side of the clamp strap that is used to secure the conductor 44 between the clamp strap 250 and grip bars 150. As FIG. 6 shows, lanced tabs 260 and 262 are not used to secure the ~~connector~~ conductor 44. Only the flat surface of side 256 is needed to secure the conductor 44.